School Matters

The Fortnightly Newsletter from Newton Poppleford School

Friday 16th October 2026

Message from Mr Pope

Dear Parents and Carers,

This past two weeks has been another exciting time at Newton Poppleford. We have held two days to raise awareness around important issues including our Hello Yellow Day to raise awareness and educate around the importance of children's mental health and our first: Show Racism the Red Card Day. A big thankyou to all parents for supporting these two important events.

School Improvement update

This past two weeks senior leaders have engaged in lesson observations and learning walks as partly of our annual cycle of review. This year's first school development priority is based around Adaptive Practice. An interesting blog post on this practice can be read here to give you insight into our discussions/ professional development activity:

https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/news/effective-teacher-feedback-understanding-in-adaptive-teaching

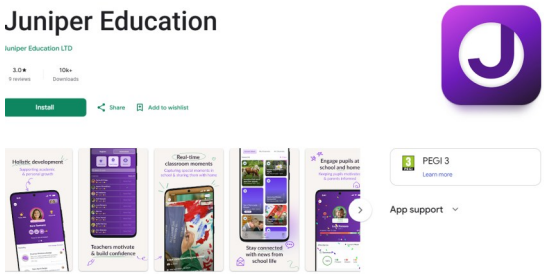
As part of this we are writing and developing our own be-spoke English units and children across the school have been studying Non-Chronological Reports. We have been very impressed by the application made by students to their learning in all these lesson visits and monitoring activities. We have seen some fantastic practice and identified next steps to move our practice forward on an individual level and school wide level. My thanks to our hard-working and diligent teaching staff for engaging purposefully in these activities (as always).

Next week we have parent's evenings and we are looking forward to inviting you in to see the children's learning and to give you an update on how they have settled into their year groups for the academic year. If you have any questions, problems or queries please do reach out to your class teacher.

I would also like to update you on the situation regarding the launch of the Juniper App. After issuing an ultimatum and a deadline the problems with launching the platform do now appear to have been fixed. We will be sending parents in year groups 1-6 invites very shortly. In the meantime, we would ask the all parents download the Juniper education APP.

www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk ✆01395 568300
✉ admin@newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk
For any Twilight after school club matters, please phone the main school number.

This APP replaces MarvellousME. The logo and app detail is below. You can download this from google play or the APP store. Once it is on your device and you accept the invitation (that will come from the school via e-mail next week) you will be able to see your child.



Finally, we said good bye in assembly last week to Mrs McQueen who (although still a part of our school community) has left her role to open her own business in Honiton. We wish her all the best and I know the staff team are planning on visiting and supporting her new venture there! A big thankyou form all of us for her contribution.

We wish you all a lovely weekend as always.

Best Wishes,

Mr Pope

IMPORTANT

Please can parents NOT operate /open the gate to the KS1 area when dropping off or collecting children but instead wait for the a member of staff to open the gate to allow entry.

PARKING

Please can we urge parents to park more considerately outside school. We have had a report of a near miss this morning as a car parked on the corner had blocked the line of sight from the car park as well as cars parked outside school on the yellow lines. Please do not block the line of sight for other road users.

Pre School







Pre-School had lots of fun making courgette muffins using the courgettes we harvested from our allotment!! 🥒 🧁
The children were introduced to the recipe and ingredients and we talked through the different steps we needed to follow. They particularly enjoyed using the electric whisk and snipping the chives with scissors. We also used scales to weigh our ingredients, giving us a great opportunity to talk about measuring, quantities and following instructions.
Once Sally (from the kitchen) had kindly baked our muffins, it was time for the best part — tasting them!! 😊 Some children even came back for seconds!!
I think we can safely say our courgette muffins were a success!! 😉 "



PE Enrichment day

On Wednesday 14th October, as part of a whole-school PE Enrichment Day, Year 4 enjoyed a session led by Joe Thompson from Sidmouth College.
The children took part in a variety of crossover games, developing their ability to find space, dodge opponents and avoid being tagged.



They then worked in small groups to practise their passing skills, focusing on accuracy and teamwork. A big thank you to Joe for delivering such a fun and active session.

Year 3









As part of Science Week, we were delighted to welcome the EDDC Countryside Rangers for an exciting morning of outdoor exploration and scientific discovery!

The children enjoyed an outdoor bug hunting session in Adventure Island, discovering a wide variety of minibeasts and invertebrates in their natural habitats. They loved learning more about these fascinating creatures.

Our learning continued with an indoor carousel of activities, including a river flow session, an exploration of the water cycle and an investigation of river samples to identify different river invertebrates and fish.

It was a fantastic opportunity for the children to get hands-on with science, develop their observation skills and learn more about the wildlife and habitats around us. A huge thank you to the EDDC Countryside Rangers for making the sessions so engaging and memorable!



Sporting Activity

On Wednesday 7th October, two teams of Year 5 and 6 pupils represented Newton Poppleford Primary School at a six-a-side football tournament held at Sidmouth College. Both teams played brilliantly, demonstrating excellent teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the afternoon. Their efforts were rewarded with fantastic second and third place finishes.
A special congratulations goes to one of our Year 5 players, who was awarded Player of the Tournament – a fantastic achievement!
Well done to everyone who took part.







Year 5



Year 5 had a fantastic visit to Escot. They showed off their knowledge of the Anglo-Saxons, and took part in activities such as making bread from scratch, forging a copper broch and carving a mallet and sign.













Reception

For funky fingers in Reception we got down on the floor and we all did a BIG draw. Some drew rainbows, others practised their graphemes and some drew a map!

Afterschool Clubs

There are a few spaces left in the following clubs, please sign up using the MCAS app

Spaces Available in the following clubs

Table Tennis — KS2 Mr Filer	Tuesday	3.20pm – 4.20pm	03/11/2026 to the 08/12/2026
Oddizzi Explorer Club— KS2 Mrs Turner	Tuesdays	3.20pm- 4.20pm	03/11/2026 to the 08/12/2026

PTFA


HALLOWEEN
COSTUME DONATIONS
LOOKING FOR DONATIONS OF
PRE LOVED
HALLOWEEN COSTUMES
GIVE COSTUMES A SECOND LIFE!
Donations to be dropped off at
THE BOOK SHED
(next to the uniform shed)
before Wednesday 21st October
BOOK SHED
SALE TO TAKE PLACE
BEFORE THE END OF TERM
RECYCLE COSTUMES...
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!
LESS WASTE ✳ MORE SMILES ✳ A SPOOKTACULAR IMPACT


Cake Sales
2026-27
Year 6: Friday 25 September 2026
Year 5: Friday 23 October 2026
Year 4: Friday 20 November 2026
Year 3: Friday 29 January 2027
Year 2: Friday 26 February 2027
Year 1: Friday 19 March 2027
Reception: Friday 7 May 2027
Preschool: Thursday 10 June 2027


Donation to PTFA for every booking made!
travel counsellors
TRUSTED TRAVEL
With Jo White at Travel Counsellors
1% of total holiday value donated to PTFA for any families or referrals from Newton Poppleford School (up to £100 per booking)
Over 20 years experience, no extra charges, all types of holidays covered, fully protected holidays and I genuinely care! Plus together we can do a little to help our awesome school
NEWTON POPPLEFORD SCHOOL
Jo.White@TravelCounsellors.com
WhatsApp 07967756543


PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION
FREE TO ENTER
BRING THEM TO SCHOOL SATURDAY 31ST DURING THE DAY
OR
BRING THEM ON THE NIGHT
WINNER GETS TO JUDGE THE FANCY DRESS

PTFA



YOUR SCHOOL LOTTERY

Raise funds for your school or organisation the easy way.

- No Startup Fees
- No Admin
- Zero risk









Dates for the Diary

Dates for the Diary	
16/10/2026	Wear Red Day - Show Racism the Red Card (Children wear something red)
19/10/2026-22/10/2029	Parents evening Week
20/10/2026	Diwali - Celebrated in School
22/10/2026	Year 5 Cake Sale
	Year 4 Trip
26-30 /10/2026	Half Term
31/10/2026	PTFA Proposed Halloween Disco
02/11/2026	Children back to school
05/11/2026	Fire Work Assembly
11/11/2026	Armistice Day
13/11/2026	Children In Need Day - Children to wear their own clothes for a small donation
16/11/2026-20/11/2026	Anti Bullying Week
16/11/2026	Odd Socks Day
20/11/2026	PTFA Year 4 Cake Sale
05/12/2026	PTFA Christmas Event



THE WOODROFFE SCHOOL
TOGETHER WE SUCCEED

Uplyme Road, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT7 3LX
01297 442232
office@woodroffe.dorset.sch.uk
www.woodroffe.dorset.sch.uk

Our Ref: NV/VOH

13th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Invitation to a Netball Workshop at The Woodroffe School

We are delighted to invite your child to take part in a **Netball Workshop** hosted by **The Woodroffe School**.

The session is designed to introduce **Year 3 and 4 pupils (girls and boys)** to the skills, drills and gameplay of Netball. The session will be held in the Sports Hall. There are 30 places.

The workshop will take place at **The Woodroffe School** on **Monday 9th November, from 4:00pm to 5:15pm**. It will be led by **Mrs Moses** (PE Teacher at The Woodroffe School) assisted by student Sports Leaders.

Please complete this form to register your interest for a place by **Monday 2nd November**: The form will close early if the session is full. We will email to confirm your child's place.

Primary Netball at The Woodroffe School Consent Form – Fill in form

Parents are warmly encouraged to come along and can park on the tennis courts. Pupils should come dressed in their PE kit and bring a refillable water bottle to stay hydrated throughout the session. We look forward to welcoming your pupils to The Woodroffe School and sharing the enjoyment of Netball with them.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Vincent
Assistant Headteacher (Primary Outreach)

Mr Kelly
Head of PE